

"through with reformers," but there would be nothing doing until after election for fear of the result in the "dry" counties of Illinois on the candidacy of Frank O. Lowden for governor.

Thompson told the committee that he would not open the saloons on Sunday during his term as mayor, but that he would aid in getting "home rule for Chicago" from the state legislature, so that the city council might take action.

It was pointed out to him that when the home rule question came up in the legislature the last time it was Corp. Counsel Sam Ettelson and other Lundin-Lowden politicians that prevented its passage.

The saloonkeepers now figure they haven't much hope of getting anything from Thompson and they think the public utility corporations will block any attempt to get real home rule for Chicago, so they have declared war on Big Bill.

From now on until the opening of the city council plans will be laid for the fight on the Thompson-Lundin administration. But they will fight without the assistance of the brewers, who have doubled their sale of bottled beer since the saloons were closed.

The "wets" also accuse Thompson of appointing the license board consisting of Charley Fitzmorris, Serg't John Naughton and Gotthard Dahlberg to offset one feature of the fight on him by the "wets" and "drys." This feature consisted of a plan to have the city council take over the handling of saloon licenses through a commission appointed by the aldermen.

According to the "dope," the mayor has received a tip that the "drys" were to make the active campaign for such a commission, aided by the Herald and Tribune. Back of the scheme was John M. Lyle of the Englewood Law and Order league, who is known as "the Trib's white-haired boy," and E. J. Davis of the

Anti-Saloon league, who has been spring most of the balls for Jim Keeley of the Herald. And the anti-Thompson "wet" aldermen were to line up with the reform bunch on the plan. Hence his speedy appointment of a license commission.

Press-agent stories of the appointment of the license commission were sent to all the "dry" counties in Illinois by the Lowden managers. Thompson's announcement to reporters ten days ago that he was "through with reformers" was not.

VILLA ALIVE, BUT HAS LOST CASTE, SAYS PERSHING

Washington, Aug. 24. —Francisco

Villa, once bandit terror of Mexico, is alive, but has lost his power and prestige. Brig. Gen. Pershing reported in telegram to war dept yesterday.

Pershing said he was wrong when he reported that Villa attacked Parral, that Villa is sneaking through mountains on way to Durango with a skimpy following and has avoided all towns and Carranza troops.

"Opinion seems general that Villa's prestige is gone and that he can never again become a serious factor in Mexican affairs," said Pershing.

Army officers regard Pershing's report of Villa's loss of prestige of utmost importance in bearing on question of withdrawal of American troops from Mexico.

WITNESS HITS CAPT. CRONIN

LeRoy Kramer, vice pres. Pullman Co.; John Williamson, vice pres. People Gas Light & Coke Co., and other "prominent citizens" testified to Capt. Cronin's good character at the resumption of the hearing of the slot machine case by the civil service board today. One witness, Frank Kolatreese, 4000 Kensington av., was hurriedly excused after he said the "captain was no good." He said Cronin allowed man who shot friend of his to go free.